



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – November 4, 2014

FirstNet News

- The Public Notice and RFI drew a total of 64 and 122 responses, respectively, and the FirstNet team is moving quickly to review and analyze all of them. The responses to the Public Notice can be found online at www.regulations.gov. Because the RFI replies are procurement sensitive, they will be kept confidential. More information is available on the FirstNet blog: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/firstnet-moving-quickly-analyze-public-notice-rfi-responses>
- FirstNet is working with the PSAC Chairman and the Executive Committee on the agenda for the December 2 PSAC meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.
- FirstNet participated in several sessions during the annual International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) conference. A blog wrap-up of the conference can be found here: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/iacp-annual-meeting-recap>
- FirstNet also participated at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) annual conference, the Virginia APCO/NENA conference, a Texas A&M workshop and live demonstration, and the FOCUS 14 Security Conference.
- The user advocacy team completed its 5th state consultation meeting last week with a diverse group of participants representing various public safety disciplines in Montana on October 29. Local and state EMS, fire, and law enforcement stakeholders shared a number of use cases describing their challenges with emergency communication today, and the opportunities they see with FirstNet in the future. More information is available on the FirstNet blog: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/firstnet%E2%80%99s-initial-consultation-meeting-big-sky-state>
- The user advocacy team will meet with public safety representatives from state, local, and tribal agencies in Utah on November 6, with Iowa to follow on November 18 and Florida on December 12.
- To date, FirstNet has received completed state consultation checklists from 29 states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia,

Guam, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Washington, Washington DC, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

- The following positions are now open in the state consultation division, based in Reston, Virginia:

Communications Program Specialist (GS-0301-12)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Location: Reston, VA

MAP vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0031](#)

DEU vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0030](#)

Communications Program Specialist (State Consultation Coordinator) (GS-0301-14)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Location: Reston, VA

MAP vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0019](#)

DEU vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0018](#)

From the States and PSAC Organizations

- FirstNet will be presenting at the APCO Emerging Technology Forum on November 5 in San Francisco.
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The state of Tennessee's website is now live: <http://www.tncnect.net/>

- As the monthly SPOC/SWIC regional calls continue this week, take another look at the proposal for 2015 calls sent out in October. The weeks have been identified throughout the calendar year; day of week and time of day are proposed to be consistent with the 2014 call schedule. Our goal is to send the calendar invites for both the monthly and quarterly events this month.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

There were several stories in the trade press about the RFI and public notice responses. In addition, UrgentComm wrote that LA-RICS is expected to begin construction of its public-safety LTE network next week, with an expected completion date of September 2015.

Radio Resource Media Group: FirstNet Receives 122 RFI Responses, 64 Public Notice Responses (10/29/14)

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) received 122 responses to its September 17 request for information (RFI) and 64 responses to the public notice published in the Federal Register September 24. Responses were due October 27. Both the RFI and the public notice allowed stakeholders, including public-safety professionals, regional, state, tribal and local jurisdictions, and the vendor community, to provide input and ideas on the development of the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN). http://www.rrmediagroup.com/newsArticle.cfm?news_id=11341

TR Daily (Summary): FirstNet's Proposed 'Public Safety' Entity, 'Rural' Definitions Draw Concerns (10/28/14)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) proposals for defining "public safety entities" and "rural" are coming under fire from some stakeholders, including the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International and some states. Regarding the definition of public safety entities, critics said FirstNet should adopt a narrow definition that includes only traditional first responders. As for the definition of rural, some states said they were concerned that it was too narrow and might leave out

areas from FirstNet coverage; some also said they were worried about separately defining “wilderness” and “frontier.” However, others, including utilities, states and localities, and industry entities, said they supported the definitions of public safety entities and rural proposed by FirstNet.

Urgent Communications: LA-RICS Helped by 700 MHz Narrowband Order, Set to Begin LTE Network Deployment Next Week (10/28/14)

The Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) welcomes spectrum aid provided in the FCC’s recent 700 MHz narrowband ruling, but more channels are needed for its new P25 system to match the capacity of its existing LMR network, according to LA-RICS Executive Director Patrick Mallon. With this in mind, LA-RICS next week is expected to begin construction of its public-safety LTE network on Band 14 700 MHz broadband spectrum that is being leased from FirstNet, Mallon said. By getting started soon, LA-RICS will be on schedule to complete its much-anticipated LTE network by September 2015, which is a condition of the \$154.6 million federal grant that is being used to fund most of the project, he said. When completed, the 231-site network easily will be the largest public-safety LTE system in the United States. <http://urgentcomm.com/fcc/la-rics-helped-700-mhz-narrowband-order-set-begin-lte-network-deployment-next-week>

Social Media

The Communications Team saw significant engagement during the various stakeholder events that the outreach team participated in over the past several days, most notably from the IACP conference and Major Cities Chiefs which began last Friday in Orlando. Many public safety stakeholders from the law enforcement community were introduced to FirstNet during the conference through presentations, one-on-ones, and social media engagement using the #IACP2014 hashtag. The FirstNet Twitter account now has more than 1,115 followers, including a number of new followers from the law enforcement community from IACP. The LinkedIn account has more than 289 followers. Our blog posts from this week can be found at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>